

Agricultural Prices

Utah: Prices received by Utah farmers and ranchers during mid-September 2003, compared with August 2003, were down for barley, other hay, and Alfalfa hay, according to the Utah Agricultural Statistics Service.

The lamb price for August 2003 was \$86.00 per cwt, up \$13.00 from September 2002. The August 2003 sheep price, at \$26.00 was \$3.00 above September 2002.

Barley, at \$2.19 per bushel, was down 6 cents from the previous month's price and 27 cents below last year. Baled alfalfa hay was \$81.00 per ton, down \$2.00 from last month and \$18.00 below last year. Other hay, at \$61.00 per ton, was \$11.00 lower than last month but \$3.00 higher than September 2002.

United States: The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received by Farmers in September is 109, based on 1990-92=100, unchanged from the August index. Since last month, a higher Livestock and Products Index more than offset a lower All Crops Index. Higher commodity prices for cattle, lettuce, dairy, and broccoli more than offset lower prices for tomatoes, eggs, potatoes, and grapes. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell, based on the past 3-year average, also affects the overall index. Increased average marketings of soybeans, peanuts, corn, and apples more than offset decreased marketings of cattle, broilers, wheat, and grapes.

This preliminary All Farm Products Index is up 11 points (11.2 percent) from September 2002. Higher prices for cattle, hogs, broilers, and lettuce more than offset lower prices for corn, wheat, potatoes, and hay.

The Food Commodities Index also increased 1 point (0.9 percent) above last month to 111, and is 16 points (16.8 percent) above September last year.

Average Prices Received by Farmers

Commodity	Unit	Utah			United States		
		Entire Month		Preliminary	Entire Month		Preliminary
		Sep 2002	Aug 2003	Sep 2003 ¹	Sep 2002	Aug 2003	Sep 2003 ¹
Livestock & Products							
Lambs	Dol/Cwt	73.00	86.00	(²)	76.30	87.60	(²)
Sheep	Dol/Cwt	23.00	26.00	(²)	24.50	28.30	(²)
Crops							
Barley	Dol/Bu	2.46	2.25	2.19	2.64	2.91	2.65
Alfalfa Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	99.00	83.00	81.00	101.00	91.00	89.00
Other Hay, Baled	Dol/Ton	58.00	72.00	61.00	71.40	69.10	70.10

¹ Prices refer to sales occurring about the 15th of the month.

² September data will be published next month.